

REMARKS

Claims 1-53 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 54-71 have been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 7-18, 24-31, 33-43 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927).

In the Office Action, claims 44-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927) and further in view of Schroepel ('038).

In the Office Action, claims 1-11, 13-16 and 24-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927) and further in view of Panescu et al. ('038).

In the Office Action, claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927) and further in view of Moaddeb et al. ('078).

In the Office Action, claims 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927) and further in view of Knoepfler ('087).

In the Office Action, claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hovda ('172) in view of Unsworth ('927) and further in view of Knoepfler ('087) in view Borst et al. ('688).

Claims 1-53 have been cancelled without prejudice thereby rendering their rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) moot.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) has been filed with this amendment. Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-2546 the fee of \$790.00 which is required for the submission of this RCE.

Support for this amendment is clearly found in the application as originally filed. No new matter is presented.

Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

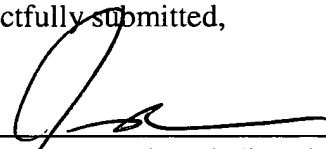
An information disclosure statement has been filed with this amendment.

Please charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account
No. 13-2546.

If the Examiner comes to believe that a telephone conversation may be useful in
addressing any remaining open issues in this case, the Examiner is urged to contact the
undersigned agent at 763-391-9867.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/25/06

By 
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